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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WESTERN DIVISION

MONTANA HANDBOOK

1940 Agricultural Conservation Program

PURPOSES OF THE PROGRAM

1. To protect and restore the soil resources of the Nation by assisting farmers to plant soil-building crops and carry out soil-building practices.
2. To raise farm income by bringing supplies of major crops in line with demand and by offering payments to farmers for cooperating in bringing about better conditions for agriculture.
3. To stabilize and maintain adequate food supplies for consumers.

HOW PROGRAM WORKS

Payments may be earned by planting within farm acreage allotments and for carrying out soil-building and soil-conserving practices.

The State is divided into A and B areas. The B area consists of Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli, Granite, Powell, Deer Lodge, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Silver Bow, and Madison Counties. The A area consists of the remaining counties in the State.

WHEAT

Wheat-acreage allotments and yields are determined by the county committee in cooperation with community committees for all farms on which wheat is grown.

PAYMENT AND DEDUCTION ON WHEAT-ALLOTMENT FARMS

A payment will be computed equal to 9 cents per bushel times the normal yield of wheat for the farm for each acre in its wheat-acreage allotment. The approximate amount of the wheat payment is shown on WR-406B for farms in area B and on WR-406A for farms in area A.

A deduction will be made on a wheat-allotment farm of 50 cents per bushel times the normal yield for each acre planted to wheat in excess of its wheat-acreage allotment.

NONWHEAT-ALLOTMENT FARM

A farm may be considered to be a nonwheat-allotment farm if the persons having an interest in the wheat so elect. A farm for which a wheat-acreage allotment was not determined is also considered to be a nonwheat-allotment farm. No wheat payment will be made on a nonwheat-allotment farm.

On a nonwheat-allotment farm the deduction will be 50 cents per bushel times the normal yield for each acre of wheat harvested for grain or for any other purpose after reaching maturity in excess of the wheat-acreage allotment or 10 acres, whichever is larger, in area A, and in excess of the usual acreage of wheat determined by the county committee for the farm or 10 acres, whichever is larger, in area B.

Acreage will be considered to be planted to wheat if (1) devoted to seeded wheat; or (2) if devoted to volunteer wheat which is not disposed of prior to June 1, 1940, by tillage with a duck-foot cultivator, one-way disk plow, moldboard plow or other tillage operation which will effectively dispose of the wheat.

TOTAL SOIL-DEPLETING ALLOTMENT

A total soil-depleting allotment will be determined for each farm in area A and for each farm for which a wheat acreage allotment is determined in area B. A farm productivity index will be established for each farm in area A.

PAYMENTS AND DEDUCTIONS ON GENERAL-ALLOTMENT FARMS

In area A, a payment of \$1.10 per acre adjusted for productivity will be computed for each acre in the total soil-depleting acreage allotment in excess of the sum of (1) the wheat acreage allotment with respect to which a payment is computed for the farm and (2) the acreage of sugar beets planted for harvest in 1940 for the extraction of sugar. The approximate amount of this payment is shown on WR-406A.

In area A, on general-allotment farms, a deduction of \$8 per acre, adjusted for productivity, will be made for soil-depleting acreage in excess of the sum of the total soil-depleting acreage allotment for the farm and any excess acreage of wheat.

PAYMENTS AND DEDUCTIONS ON NONGENERAL-ALLOTMENT FARMS

A farm in area A for which a total soil-depleting acreage allotment of 20 acres or less is determined will be considered as a nongeneral-allotment farm if the persons having an interest in the general soil-depleting crops on the farm so elect on WR-406A. Twenty acres of soil-depleting crops may be grown on a nongeneral-allotment farm without deductions for exceeding the total soil-depleting acreage allotment.

No payment will be made on the total soil-depleting acreage allotment on a nongeneral-allotment farm, since an acreage in excess of

the total soil-depleting acreage allotment may be grown. However, the soil-building allowance will be increased on these farms.

On nongeneral-allotment farms in area A a deduction of \$8 per acre, adjusted for productivity, will be made for soil-depleting acreage in excess of the sum of 20 acres and any excess acreage of wheat.

DEDUCTIONS FOR EXCESS SOIL-DEPLETING ACREAGE IN AREA B

In area B, on farms for which a total soil-depleting acreage allotment is determined, a deduction will be made of \$5 for each acre classified as soil depleting in excess of the larger of (1) the sum of the total soil-depleting acreage allotment and any excess acreage of wheat or (2) 20 acres.

RESTORATION LAND

Restoration land is land in area A which has been cropped at least once since January 1, 1930, and which is designated by the county committee as not suited for cultivation and which should be restored to a permanent vegetative cover.

A payment of 15 cents per acre will be computed for each acre of restoration land designated for the farm. This payment will be made to the person who is the owner of the land as of June 30, 1940, unless the land is rented for cash, in which case the payment will be made to the cash tenant as of that date.

A deduction of \$3 per acre will be made for restoration land which is plowed or tilled for any purpose other than tillage practices to protect the land from wind erosion or to prepare a seed bed for an approved nondepleting cover crop or permanent grass mixture.

MISCELLANEOUS DEDUCTIONS

A deduction of \$1 per acre will be made for land in area A which is subject to serious wind or water erosion hazards if acceptable methods of control are not performed.

A deduction of \$3 per acre will be made for native sod or any other land on which a permanent vegetative cover has been established, which is broken out in area A. If the acreage is broken out with the approval of the county committee and at least an equal acreage of cropland, other than restoration land, is restored to permanent vegetative cover, the deduction will not apply.

SOIL-BUILDING ALLOWANCES

The maximum amount that may be earned on a farm by carrying out soil-building practices is the sum of the following items:

1. 55 cents per acre of cropland in excess of the total soil-depleting acreage allotment for farms in area A.
2. \$2 per acre of commercial orchards and perennial vegetables on the farm January 1, 1940 (excluding non-bearing orchards).

3. 3 cents per acre of grazing land plus 75 cents for each animal unit of grazing capacity. On acreages in excess of 640 acres, the allowance under this item cannot be computed on more than one animal unit for each 10 acres or if more than 60 acres are required to carry one animal unit the total allowance under this item 3 shall be \$2.55 for each animal unit of grazing capacity. In no case will the amount computed under this item be less than 10 cents times the number of acres of grazing land or 640 acres, whichever is smaller.

4. 70 cents per acre of cropland in area B in excess of the sum of (1) the wheat allotment with respect to which payment is computed, and (2) the acreage of sugar beets planted for harvest in 1940 for the extraction of sugar.

5. \$1.10 per acre, adjusted for productivity, on non-general-allotment farms in area A, for each acre in the total soil-depleting acreage allotment in excess of the sum of (1) the wheat acreage allotment with respect to which a payment is computed, and (2) the acreage of sugar beets planted for harvest in 1940 for the extraction of sugar.

6. 45 cents per acre for each acre of restoration land.

7. 35 cents for each acre of mountain meadow land in Beaverhead, Big Horn, Blaine, Broadwater, Carbon, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Fergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Glacier, Granite, Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lake, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Madison, Meagher, Mineral, Missoula, Park, Pondera, Powell, Ravalli, Sanders, Silver Bow, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Teton and Wheatland Counties.

For any farm where the sum of the payments computed for wheat, the total soil-depleting allotment, restoration land, and under items 1 through 7 above is less than \$20, the soil-building allowance shall be increased by the amount of the difference. In addition, a payment of \$7.50 for each acre planted to forest trees will be made not to exceed a total of \$30 for the farm.

SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

In determining the acceptability of the methods used in carrying out soil-building practices, the farmer should be guided by the specifications contained herein and any additional specifications issued by the State committee or by the county committee with the approval of the State committee. This applies particularly to rates, dates, and methods of seeding, cultural practices, adaptability of soil-conserving crops, trees or shrubs, methods of weed control, etc., used in connection with soil-building practices.

The farmer must make sure that the seed used is adapted to the community, free from noxious weeds and relatively free from other weeds, and is seeded in sufficient quantity to meet the minimum seeding requirements in good viable seed. The farmer will be expected to cooperate with organized insect control agencies in the area where the operating unit is located, whenever an organized insect control campaign is operated in the area.

The approximate maximum amount that may be earned, by use of the soil-building practices in this handbook, on any operating unit in Montana, is the amount shown on the farm plan or estimate sheet (WR-406A or WR-406B).

The soil-building practices listed below are applicable in all counties in Montana when carried out on cropland and noncropland except when otherwise specified. If all or part of the labor, seed, or materials is furnished by any governmental agency, no credit or only partial credit will be given for the practice.

The county committee will furnish further detailed information.

That amount of performance out of proportion to the contribution of any practice toward conservation shall not be approved for payment.

Any combination of soil-building practices on the same land may be allowed by the county committee subject to the approval of the State Committee.

The 1940 program year for carrying out soil-building practices will be the period December 16, 1939, to October 31, 1940.

APPLICATION OF MATERIALS

Practice (1) (i).—\$1.50 for each 300 pounds of 16 percent super-phosphate or its equivalent of 48 pounds of available P_2O_5 in other forms of fertilizer applied to, or in connection with the seeding of legumes or perennial grasses on any land in Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Flathead, Granite, Jefferson, Lake, Lincoln, Madison, Mineral, Missoula, Powell, Ravalli, Sanders, and Silver Bow Counties, and on irrigated land in all counties. Rock phosphate and basic slag will not qualify under this practice. No credit will be given for this practice when used in connection with soil-depleting crops.

Practice 2.—\$1.50 for each 300 pounds of 18 percent gypsum or its sulphur equivalent provided that the rate of application is not less than 100 pounds of gypsum or 18 pounds of sulphur per acre. This practice is applicable only in Sanders, Mineral, Ravalli, Missoula, Deer Lodge, Granite, Powell, Beaverhead, Lake, Flathead, and Lincoln Counties.

Practice 4.—\$1.50 for each 2 tons, air-dry weight, of small-grain straw, alfalfa hay, pea straw or residue, or equivalent mulching material other than barnyard or stable manure incorporated into the soil in orchards or on commercial-vegetable land.

SEEDINGS

Practice 6.—\$1.50 for each acre of cropland or orchard land seeded to ladak, cossack, Grimm, northern grown common, or Canadian variegated alfalfa.

Practice 7.—\$3 for each acre of full seeding on cropland, restoration land, or orchard land of crested wheatgrass, western wheatgrass, or mixtures of these grasses. Huntley pasture mixture on irrigated land will qualify under this practice.

Practice 8.—(a) 75 cents for each acre of cropland or orchard land seeded to adapted perennial grasses or biennial or perennial legumes or mixtures approved by the State Committee. Rates of seeding and approved mixtures may be obtained from the county committee. Timothy and redtop may be included in mixtures but may not be seeded alone or in mixtures containing only these two grasses.

(b) 75 cents for each acre of annual sweet clover seeded on irrigated land in all counties or on cropland or orchard land in Lincoln, Flathead, and Lake Counties.

Practice 12.—37½ cents for each acre seeded to not less than 10 pounds of timothy or redbud or mixtures consisting solely of these two grasses between April 1, 1940, and June 15, 1940.

PASTURE IMPROVEMENT

Practice R-a.—For natural reseeding of grazing land by deferred grazing and supplemental practices, 75 percent of item 3 of the soil-building allowance may be earned, provided the operator defers grazing on 25 percent of his grazing land and performs supplemental practices equal in value to 75 percent of the portion of soil-building allowance computed as above. If less than 25 percent of the grazing land is deferred, a proportionate payment will be made, provided supplemental practices equal to the amount of the payment earned are carried out. If less than the required number of supplemental practices are carried out, payment cannot exceed the value of the practices performed.

SPECIFICATIONS.—The above payment will be made provided (1) the deferred area must be withheld from grazing from April 15, 1940, to August 15, 1940; (2) on operating units on which cattle or horses are grazed, the area to be kept free of grazing is fenced and the fence is maintained sufficiently to prevent the entry of livestock, or on operating units used exclusively for grazing sheep, the entry of sheep on the deferred acreage is prevented by herding (the operator must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the county committee that objectives of deferred grazing practices have been accomplished); (3) the remaining grazing land in such operating unit is not grazed to such an extent as will decrease the stand of grass or injure the forage, tree growth, or watershed; (4) such practice shall not be applicable to grazing land in the operating unit which normally is not used for grazing; (5) the operator has submitted to the county committee in writing the designation of the area of the operating unit to be deferred previous to the initiation of such practice; and (6) the operator shall carry out supplemental practices recommended by the county committee with the approval of the State committee.

No livestock shall be grazed upon the deferred area during the period April 15, 1940, to August 15, 1940. The deferred grazing area, however, may be used for grazing at the close of this period, but hay shall not be cut nor seed harvested therefrom in 1940.

Prior to the approval of deferred grazing on a part of an operating unit the county committee shall record in writing their determination based upon facts presented that the remaining grazing land in such operating unit will not be grazed in 1940 to such an extent as will decrease the stand of grass or injure the forage, tree growth, or watershed.

Practice R-b.—\$1.50 for each 10 pounds of good seed of adapted grasses or legumes used in replanting depleted grazing land or mountain meadow land. Payment under this practice shall not exceed \$1.50 per acre.

Practice R-g.—15 cents per cubic yard of material moved not in excess of 5,000 cubic yards and 10 cents per cubic yard of material moved in excess of 5,000 cubic yards for each tank or reservoir for constructing reservoirs or earthen tanks for the purpose of providing water for livestock, with spillways adequate to prevent dams from washing out.

Existing dams may be enlarged if the project has prior approval of the State Committee based on the recommendation of the county committee. This recommendation must show that the dam is properly located, that its enlargement is necessary to make permanent water

available, and must show the yardage in place as well as the yardage in the proposed enlargement.

Prior approval must be obtained from the county committee, at which time detailed specifications will be given to the operator.

Practice R-i (1).—\$2 per linear foot for drilling or digging wells.

SPECIFICATIONS.—For drilling or digging wells with casing not less than 4 inches in diameter, for the purpose of providing water for livestock, provided a windmill or power pump is installed and the water is conveyed to a tank or storage reservoir. Payment will not be made for a well developed at any headquarters.

Any well developed for payment shall supply ample water for the number of livestock using the adjoining grazing land during the grazing period and shall be for the purpose of bringing about such an improved distribution of stock on such grazing land as will conserve and restore the vegetative cover thereof. A dry hole shall not qualify. A mechanical lifting device other than a hand pump shall be installed and in operation at the time of inspection. An existing well may be deepened to provide an additional supply of water adequate for the number of livestock on the adjacent grazing land but under no circumstances shall such performance be approved before measurements showing the depth of the existing well have been made and recorded with the county committee.

A good sound trough or pipe shall convey the water to a tank or storage reservoir and shall be of sufficient size to assure an ample supply of good clear water for the number of livestock using the adjacent grazing land.

Ample protection must be given to the well and watering facilities used in connection therewith.

No payment will be made for a tank or storage reservoir constructed in connection with this practice. An artesian well shall not qualify under this practice. Prior approval must be obtained from the county committee before institution of the practice.

Practice R-i (2).—\$1 per linear foot for drilling wells.

SPECIFICATIONS.—For drilling wells with casing less than 4 inches in diameter, for the purpose of providing water for livestock, provided a windmill or power pump is installed and the water is conveyed to a tank or storage reservoir. An artesian well with casing less than 4 inches in diameter will qualify for payment, provided adequate stock water is made available during the grazing season and the water is conveyed to a tank or storage reservoir. Payment will not be made for a well developed at any headquarters.

The same specifications as for a well with 4-inch casing will apply with the exception that no payment will be made for a well other than an artesian well under this practice if casing less than 2 inches is installed. An artesian well equipped with a cut-off device, when constructed according to specifications, will be approved, but a mechanical lifting device will not be required. No payment will be made for a tank or storage reservoir constructed in connection with this practice. Prior approval must be obtained from the county committee.

Practice R-j.—30 cents per cubic foot in soil or gravel and 50 cents per cubic foot in rock formation for excavation of source for development of natural watering places, provided the minimum payment will be \$20 and the maximum payment \$100 for any single development, and further provided that the total cost of the development is not less than \$20.

Payment will not be made for springs or seeps developed at the headquarters.

Payment will be made for developing springs or seeps for the purpose of providing water for livestock, provided the source is protected from trampling, and at least 20 cubic feet of available water storage is provided. Prior approval must be obtained from the county committee, at which time detailed specifications will be given to the operator.

GREEN MANURE CROPS AND COVER CROPS

Practice 17.—(a) \$1.50 for each acre of annual legumes, including soybeans, cowpeas, field beans, field peas, and annual sweet clover, biennial legumes, or mixtures of these crops (but not including perennial legumes or perennial grasses) of which a good stand and a good growth is turned under as green manure on irrigated land, or in orchards, or on commercial vegetable land, or on potato land.

\$1.50 for each acre of small grains (except wheat), or mixtures of small grains (except wheat) and the above-named legumes, of which a good stand and a good growth is turned under as green manure in orchards or on commercial vegetable land, or on potato land.

\$1.50 for each acre for leaving on the land in orchards, on commercial vegetable land, or potato land, a good stand and a good growth of any of the above crops or mixtures of them as a cover crop. Cover crops must not be pastured or used in any other manner. Perennial legumes may be left on land in orchards as a cover crop if not pastured or used for grain, hay, seed, or forage. Crops used for green manure or cover crops must not be utilized for credit for any other practice in 1940 and must not include any crop from which seed is harvested by mechanical means.

(b) 75 cents for each acre of small grains (except wheat) when used as green manure crops or cover crops on irrigated land other than in orchards or on commercial vegetable or potato land.

EROSION CONTROL

All soil erosion and water conservation measures developed for payment shall be for the purpose of conserving moisture and retarding soil erosion on land in order to facilitate the renovation and maintenance of adequate vegetative cover. The use of mechanical water conservation measures shall be limited to soil types that are porous enough to satisfactorily utilize the additional moisture from the application of these measures, and to the flatter slopes or locations where the diversion can be attained without undue expense. All erosion control measures shall be staked out by a competent person prior to institution.

Practice R-d.—21½ cents per hundred linear feet of contour furrowing of noncropland or subsoiling mountain meadowland.

Written prior approval must be secured from the county committee and will be based on soil types and ground cover.

Furrowing shall be constructed on the contour with furrows spaced not more than 25 feet apart horizontally, or 2 feet vertically and having a minimum cross-sectional area of not less than 32 square inches. A minimum series of two operations, each operation having a cross-sectional area of not less than 16 square inches, may be used in lieu of a furrow. Dams or furrow breaks at intervals of not more than 100 feet shall be provided to check the free movement of water along the furrow and to assure more uniform moisture distribution.

On mountain meadowland, subsoiling shall be performed on the contour to a minimum depth of 4 inches with not less than 20 lists or furrows to each 50-foot strip. Credit under this practice shall not be given on the same acreage for which payment has been made for contour furrowing or subsoiling under a previous program.

Practice R-f (1).—15 cents per cubic yard of material moved in building spreader dams. Dams shall be built on intermittent streams. Small dams not in excess of 4 feet in height shall have minimum side slopes of 2 to 1 and the crown shall be not less than 1 foot wide. Dams in excess of 4 feet in height shall be built to same side slopes, free board, and crown width as specified for earthen dams under Practice R-g.

If necessitated by existing topography the dam should be supplemented with smaller diversion dams or dikes extending from either one or both ends of the dams or by diversion ditches credited under Practice 22.

Prior approval must be obtained from the county committee.

Practice R-f (2).—50 cents per 100 linear feet of spreader terraces. Spreader terraces may be used either alone or in combination with spreader dams. If terraces are given a grade the fall shall not exceed 2 inches per 100 feet of length. Terraces shall have a minimum cross section of 3 square feet. Sufficient openings should be made through the dikes according to topographic features to allow for uniform spreading of diverted water. The openings shall be protected against erosion.

Prior approval must be obtained from the county committee.

Under no circumstances shall payment be made for performance of Practices R-f (1) or R-f (2) unless the diverted water is adequately controlled and its return to the flood channel is retarded sufficiently to prevent erosion.

Practice 21.—\$1.50 for each 7 cubic feet of concrete or rubble masonry used in the construction of check dams or drops and measuring weirs for the control of erosion, leaching, and seepage of irrigated cropland and orchard land. Prior approval of the county committee must be secured at which time approved, detailed specifications will be furnished to the operator.

Practice 22.—\$1.50 for each 300 linear feet of ditching constructed for the diversion and spreading of flood water or well water. Ditches of less than 300 feet in length will not qualify. The ditches must be of such design as to produce nonerosive velocities of the water, grade not exceeding 2 inches per 100 feet of length, with a cross-section measurement of not less than 3 square feet. The ditch must have ample capacity to carry the diverted water with an adequate outlet and protection at the discharge end.

Practice 23.—\$1.50 for construction of one cubic yard of riprap of rock along active streams for the control of erosion.

Practice 28.—37½ cents per acre for protecting land, which was properly designated as restoration land in 1938 or 1939, on which the county committee finds that no soil-building practice is needed in 1940 for the establishment of a permanent vegetative cover. This practice is not applicable to land designated for the first time as restoration land in 1940.

Practice 30.—25 cents per acre for strip cropping, including protection of summer fallow by means of strip fallowing.

SPECIFICATIONS.—(a) The following alternate strips on cropland are permissible:

(1) Alternate strips of close-grown crops with intertilled row crops or fallow.

(2) Old stands of perennial grasses or biennial and perennial legumes with close-grown crops, intertilled row crops, fallow or idle land, with prior approval of the county committee.

(3) Alternate strips of close-grown crops with idle land.

(4) Alternate strips of fallow and 1939 small grain stubble.

(b) In no case shall any strip of fallow or intertilled crops be more than 20 rods in width.

(c) In no case shall strips of close-grown crops exceed 20 rods in width.

(d) No strip shall be less than one-fourth the width of the adjoining strip.

(e) Strips shall be at right angles to prevailing winds or on the contour.

(f) There must be in the field two or more strips which are protected by two or more close-grown crops.

Practice 31.— $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents for each acre of summer fallow protected from wind and water erosion by contour listing or contour pit cultivation. Listing on the contour shall not vary from the true contour by more than 1 percent except in the case of pit cultivation in which case the listed furrows shall not vary from the true contour more than 2 percent. Contour furrows must not be more than 4 feet apart and not less than 4 inches in depth from the ground level. Dams in pit cultivation shall be spaced in accordance with the following:

(1) On land where the slope is not more than 2 percent the furrow dams shall be not more than 16 feet apart.

(2) On land where the slope is more than 2 percent the spacing between furrow dams shall not exceed 10 feet.

No credit will be given for this practice when carried out on light sandy soils or on soils in any area where destruction of the vegetative cover results in the land becoming subject to serious wind erosion.

Practice 32.— $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents per acre for each acre of intertilled crops on cropland farmed on the contour, provided the slope is at least 2 percent and the contour of the rows is within 1 percent of the contour line. If there are gullies on the land, these must be protected with a close-growing vegetation, check dams, terraces, or other means of gully control. At least 95 percent of the area must meet the specifications before the field may be approved.

Practice 34.— $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents for each acre of pit cultivation for emergency wind erosion control with pits to be at least four inches in depth below the surface of soil and constructed so that surface of pit covers at least 25 percent of the ground surface. No credit will be given for this practice when carried out on protected summer-fallowed acreage or as a part of a seeding operation or following a grain crop which is harvested in 1940.

Practice 35.—15 cents for each acre of cropland seeded to small grains on the contour in 1940. At least 95 percent of the seeding must not deviate more than 1 percent from the contour and the average slope of the land must be at least 2 percent. Broadcast seeding not acceptable.

FORESTRY

Practice 38.—\$3 for each acre of forest trees or a mixture of forest trees and shrubs suitable for wildlife that were planted between July 1, 1936, and July 1, 1940, which are cultivated, protected, and

maintained by replanting if necessary to keep a stand of not less than 200 living trees per acre. Livestock must be kept out of the area and there must be sufficient cultivation to keep down weed growth. Measurements on single row plantings will be taken one-half rod on each side of the row. In block plantings, the measurement will be taken one-half rod outside of the last row of plantings.

Practice 40.—\$7.50 for each acre planted to forest trees and shrubs, including those beneficial to wildlife, provided the trees are protected from fire and grazing and cultivated in accordance with good tree culture and wildlife management practice. Prior approval of the county committee must be obtained and detailed, approved specifications as to time of planting, methods of planting, and varieties that may be used will be furnished to each individual whose project meets with their approval.

OTHER PRACTICES

Practice R (t).—5 cents per 100 linear feet for establishment on grazing land of fire guards not less than 10 feet in width by plowing furrows or otherwise exposing the mineral soil. Payment will not be made if any fire guard is used in connection with controlled burning within the ranching unit. The purpose of this practice is to protect the vegetative cover of an operator's grazing land against fire. Insofar as possible, fire guards should be established on the crest of ridges or on the contour in order to prevent erosion. Any fire guard established must be kept free from vegetation during the time of year fire may destroy the vegetative cover. No payment will be made for this practice if less than 100 linear feet are established.

Practice 42.—\$1.50 for growing an adequate home garden for a landlord or tenant family on a farm in accordance with specifications issued by the State Committee.

Practice 43.—\$7.50 for each acre of land in organized weed-control areas approved by the State Committee where seriously infested plots of perennial noxious weeds are controlled by clean tillage or by the use of chemicals. Weeds which are approved for control in Montana are bindweed, white top, Canadian thistle, leafy spurge, and Russian knapweed. Prior approval of the area must be obtained from the county committee, at which time approved, detailed specifications for carrying out weed control will be given to each operator.

Practice 46.—75 cents for each acre of perennial legumes or mixtures of perennial grasses and legumes on cropland renovated by cultivation to a depth of not less than 4 inches and reseeding where it is good farming practice to do so. The cultivation may be not more than 2 inches in depth where alfalfa is not more than one year old; provided the area is reseeded at the rate of not less than one-half the normal rate per acre. Where renovation is followed by irrigation, the water must not be put on until after all weeds have been exposed long enough to die. Prior approval of this practice by the county committee must be obtained.

SOIL-DEPLETING ACREAGE

Any acreage of land devoted during the 1940 crop year to one or more of the following crops or uses will be considered as soil-depleting acreage:

Corn planted for any purpose except sweet corn or popcorn grown in a home garden for use on the farm;

Grain sorghums, sugar beets, mangels or cowbeets planted for any purpose;

Potatoes or annual truck and vegetable crops planted for any purpose; except when grown in a home garden for use on the farm;

Commercial bulbs and flowers, commercial mustard, cultivated sun-flowers, safflower or hemp harvested for any purpose;

Field beans planted for any purpose or peas planted for canning, freezing, or dried peas; except when grown in a home garden for use on the farm or when incorporated into the soil as green manure;

Flax planted for any purpose (except when used as a nurse crop for biennial or perennial legumes or perennial grasses which are seeded in a workmanlike manner or, on nonirrigated land in area A, when matched acre for acre by biennial or perennial legumes or perennial grasses seeded alone in a workmanlike manner);

Wheat planted or regarded as planted for any purpose on a wheat-allotment farm;

Wheat on a non-wheat allotment farm harvested for any purpose after reaching maturity;

Oats, barley, rye, emmer, speltz, or mixtures of these crops, harvested for grain;

Wheat on a nonwheat-allotment farm, oats, barley, rye, emmer, speltz, or mixtures of these crops, harvested for hay, except when such crops are used as nurse crops for legumes or perennial grasses which are seeded in a workmanlike manner and the nurse crop is cut green for hay or except when such crops are grown in a mixture containing at least 25 percent by weight of winter legumes;

Buckwheat, sudan grass, or millet harvested for grain or seed;

Sweet sorghums harvested for grain or seed;

Land summer fallowed if not protected from wind and water erosion by (a) the methods permitted under Practice 30 (strip cropping), (b) by contour listing or pit cultivation or incorporating stubble or straw into the surface soil, (c) if Sudan grass, millet, sweet sorghums, or rows of close-drilled corn are planted in strips which are not less than one-eighth of the summer-fallowed acreage which they protect, provided the operator's plan provides that such strips of protective crops will be left until the spring of 1941 and provided that the protected strips of summer fallow do not exceed 20 rods in width, or (d) a rough cloddy mulch is maintained on such acreage, provided such land has not been subject to severe wind or water erosion in recent years, and provided the soil is of a sufficiently fine texture, and the tillage methods used are timely enough to assure a rough and cloddy mulch. On acreages which have been subject to serious wind or water erosion in recent years, other methods than maintaining a rough, cloddy mulch must be used.

PAYMENT PROVISIONS

Division of wheat and total soil-depleting allotment payments.—In general, the crop allotment payments and deductions will be divided between landlords and tenants as the crop is divided.

In cases where two or more separately owned tracts of land comprise a farm, the share of each person in the payment or deduction will be that indicated on ACP-95 if all interested persons agree.

Division of soil-building payments.—The payments earned in connection with soil-building practices will be paid to the person who carried out the soil-building practices.

Deductions on other farms.—If a person complies on one farm and has an interest in other farms which are not in compliance to the extent that deductions exceed the payments, the payments due him on the farm in compliance will be reduced by his share of the deductions carried over from the other farm.

Increase in small payments.—If the total payment computed for any person is less than \$200 the payment will be increased by an amount fixed in the law. Information as to the exact amount of the increase can be obtained from the county committee.

Payments limited to \$10,000.—Payments to an individual, partnership, or estate, are limited by the law to \$10,000 in a State; a corporation or association is, by the law, limited to \$10,000 in the United States.

Deduction for association expenses.—The estimated administrative expenses of the county agricultural conservation association shall be deducted pro rata from the payments computed for all of the farms in the county.

Defeating purposes of program.—Congress has authorized payments only to persons whose cooperation results in net contributions to the program. Accordingly, payment will be withheld from any person who adopts any practice which tends to defeat or offset the purposes of the program.

Idle farms.—The only payments which will be made with respect to farms which are not operated in 1940 are payments for carrying out soil-building practices and in connection with restoration land.

Payment made or computed without regard to claims.—Any payment or share of payment will be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien against any crop or proceeds thereof in favor of the owner or any other creditor, except as stated in the paragraph on assignments, and indebtedness due the United States which is subject to set-off.

Availability of funds.—All payments provided for in this handbook are subject to the limits determined by appropriations which Congress may provide. As an adjustment for participation the rates of payment and deduction with respect to any commodity or item of payment may be increased or decreased by as much as 10 percent.

APPLICATION PROVISIONS

Eligibility.—An application for payment may be made by any person for whom a share in the payment with respect to a farm may be computed and who at the time of harvest is entitled to share in any of the crops grown on the farm under a lease or operating agreement, or as owner-operator, or who is owner or cash tenant, on June 30, 1940, of a farm on which restoration land is designated or who participates in carrying out approved soil-building practices on the farm.

Time of filing application.—Payments will be made only upon applications submitted through the county office on or before March 31, 1941, and only to those persons who furnish required information and file prescribed forms within the respective time limits therefor.

Application for other farms in county.—A person must make application for payment with respect to all farms in the county which he operates or rents to other persons.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Assignments.—Any person who may be entitled to a payment in connection with the 1940 program may assign his interest in such payment as security for cash loaned or advances made for the purpose of financing the making of a crop in 1940. No assignment will be recognized unless the assignment is made on ACP-69 in accordance with instructions contained in ACP-70.

Appeals.—Any person has 15 days following his notice of any action of the county committee to file a written appeal asking for reconsideration. Any person having appealed to the county committee who is still dissatisfied may, within 15 days following his notice of the reconsideration, appeal to the State committee, whose action is reviewable by the regional director.

Applicability.—The provisions of the 1940 program are not applicable to public domain, including land owned by the United States and administered under the Taylor Grazing Act or by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and other lands in which the beneficial ownership is in the United States.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Complete information may be obtained from the county office of the agricultural conservation association regarding allotments, payments, appeals, soil-building practices, and other details of the program.

N. E. DODD,
Director, Western Division.



